

Introduced by Senator Lowenthal
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Oropeza)

June 12, 2006

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 124—Relative to recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Interstate Highway System, especially in California.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 124, as introduced, Lowenthal. Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

This measure would recognize the 50th anniversary of the Dwight Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, On June 29, 1956, President Dwight D.
2 Eisenhower signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 to
3 establish a 41,000-mile National System of Interstate and
4 Defense Highways, known as the Interstate Highway System,
5 and the Highway Revenue Act of 1956 to create the national
6 Highway Trust Fund; and
7 WHEREAS, In 1990, the National System of Interstate and
8 Defense Highways was renamed the Dwight D. Eisenhower
9 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways to
10 recognize President Eisenhower's role in the creation of the
11 system; and
12 WHEREAS, In 2006, this network of superhighways, now
13 spanning a total of 46,876 miles throughout the United States,
14 has had a powerful and positive impact on our national life; and

1 WHEREAS, In 2006, this network of superhighways, primary
2 Interstate Routes 5, 10, 15, 40, and 80 throughout the great State
3 of California, has had a powerful and positive impact on our
4 California life style; and

5 WHEREAS, This system was designed and engineered by
6 Department of Transportation (Caltrans) employees and the
7 retired employees of the California Division of Highways,
8 Caltrans' predecessor agency, and today is managed and
9 maintained by the employees of Caltrans for the benefit of all
10 Californians and our visitors; and

11 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has proven vital
12 in transporting people and goods from one region to another
13 speedily and safely; and

14 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has facilitated
15 trade and commerce both within our national borders and
16 globally and helped create unprecedented economic expansion
17 and opportunities for millions of Californians and our visitors;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has brought
20 diverse communities throughout our country and state closer
21 together and kept us connected to one another as well as to the
22 larger world; and

23 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System has made it
24 easier and often more enjoyable to travel to long-distance
25 destinations and spend time with family members and friends
26 who live far away; and

27 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System is a pivotal
28 component in our national system of defense and emergency
29 preparedness efforts; and

30 WHEREAS, The Interstate Highway System remains one of
31 our state's paramount assets as well as a symbol of human
32 ingenuity and freedom; and

33 WHEREAS, This anniversary provides an occasion to both
34 honor one of the largest public works achievements of all time
35 and reflect on how it can remain effective in the years ahead:
36 now, therefore, be it

37 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
38 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the Golden
39 Anniversary Year of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System
40 of Interstate and Defense Highways; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the achievements of the current and retired
2 employees of Caltrans, its predecessor agency, the California
3 Division of Highways, and the highway construction industry,
4 including contractors, materials producers, equipment
5 companies, and affiliated labor unions, are recognized for their
6 contributions to the construction of the Interstate Highway
7 System; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That citizens, communities, government agencies,
9 and other organizations are encouraged to promote and
10 participate in celebratory and educational activities marking this
11 uniquely important and historic milestone; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
13 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.